

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

NEIL ABERCROMBIE

GOVERNOR

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REQUESTS VOLUNTARY REMOVAL OF OXYELITE PRO SUPPLEMENT FROM SALE

HONOLULU -- The Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) is alerting local retailers and requesting the voluntary removal from sale of the product OxyElite Pro pending an ongoing investigation of cases of liver failure and acute hepatitis. DOH Food and Drug Branch today began notifying retailers and distributors to voluntarily suspend sales and remove the product from store shelves until further notice. The public is advised to discontinue use of the product at this time.

DOH is currently investigating 29 cases of acute hepatitis and liver failure that have occurred in the state from May through October 2013 and may be related to the use of diet supplements for weight loss and/or muscle building. The cases under investigation include two individuals that have undergone liver transplants and one death.

"Of the cases under investigation, 24 individuals reported using OxyElite Pro before their illness," said Dr. Sarah Park, State Epidemiologist. "No other supplement or medication has been identified in common among more than two patients."

The department continues to urge people who use dietary or nutritional supplements for weight loss and/or muscle gain to talk with their doctor or health care provider. Anyone who develops

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symptoms such as abdominal pain or discomfort, fatigue, loss of appetite, nausea and /or vomiting, and yellow skin or eyes, should consult their doctor immediately.

DOH is working closely with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention throughout the ongoing investigation.

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For more information on this news release, contact Mark Berthold Disease Outbreak Control Division Phone: (808) 587-6596